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Greece

Canned Deciduous Fruit

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Report Highlights:

The severely cold winter of 2002 reduced peach crops in Greece by 30%. Taking into account available stocks, the canned peach industry will show a 19% reduction in the supply of canned peaches in 2002. Exports are expected to decline 34%. The winter storm did not affect the apricot crop. Apricots delivered to processors were slightly increased over 2001 levels. Production of canned mixtures is expected to increase 20% due to lower production in Italy.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
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SECTION I - SITUATION AND OUTLOOK NARRATIVE

PEACHES

Production

Unfavorable weather conditions from January to February have adversely affected the clingstone and freestone peach crops. Snowstorms during January and a remarkable drop in temperatures down to minus 20° C in the prefectures of Imathia, Pella and Larissa, which are the most important peach producing areas, have severely damaged the tree population. This damage was not visible until the fruit development stage and caught producers and processors by surprise. Early unpredictable damage has resulted in a production drop for clingstone peaches of approximately 30%. An equal reduction of peaches delivered to processing is reported.

Reportedly, tree damage was mostly observed in the plains and less damage has affected orchards at higher altitudes. Field sources are unable to predict to what extent the damage will affect the 2003 crop.

After these developments and some revisions made by the Ministry of Agriculture for the 2002 crop, peach production data for the 2001 and 2002 years is as follows:

	2001	2002
Metric Tons		
Peaches		
Clingstone	530,500	350,000
Freestone	260,000	230,000
Total peaches	790,500	570,000
Nectarines	110,000	97,000

The utilization of the 2001 and 2002 peach crops based on the most current data available is as follows: (2002 figures are subject to further revision).

	2001	2002
Metric Tons		
Processed for canned Peaches	330,000	230,000
Processed for other products (pure, diced, frozen)	97,000	70,000

Fresh Domestic Production	150,000	130,000
Fresh Exports	100,000	80,000
Total Market Peaches	677,000	510,000
Withdrawals*	50,000	3,000
Weather Damaged (Estimate)	43,000	77,000
Farm Use and Waste	20,000	20,000
Total	790,500	610,000

*Due to limited production withdrawals were negligible.

The utilization of the clingstone peach production in 2002 is broken down as follows:

	2002
	Metric Tons
Canned Peaches	230,000
Freezing	30,000
Juices	45,000
Cling Stone Exports	4,000
Withdrawals	3,000
Weather Damaged and/or wasted	33,000
Farm Use	5,000
Total	350,000

The initial agreement between farmers and processors for the 2002 crop was for 234.76 euros/MT for fresh fruit delivered to processors plus 47.7 euros/MT, which was the EU subsidy, paid directly to growers. Although this was the agreement before farmers started delivering the harvest, finally they have received an additional amount of 0.15 euros/kg due to the short supply. This additional payment was achieved after farmer organizations put pressure on processors, exploiting the shortage of fruit available for processing.

Processing plants have operated under capacity and available fresh fruit was allocated among processors with the

purpose of keeping the plants operating longer and at acceptable cost.

Consumption

Greek consumers prefer fresh fruit instead of canned fruit. Although prices are high for fresh fruits and vegetables, Greek consumers do not seem to change habits and supplement their diet with canned products.

Stocks

Trade sources have reported that MY 2001/2002 ending stocks were 57,000 MT, which corresponds to approximately 2,800,000 boxes (24x1 kgr, net). Considering that the 2002 output will be at 13,500,000 boxes, total supply will be 16,300,000 boxes (24x1 kgr, net). This fact causes to the industry a problem to satisfy the international markets. In a normal year the total supply exceeds 20,000,000 boxes. By the end of MY 2002/2003 ending stocks will be somewhere between 1,000,000-1,500,000 boxes, which is considered to be the minimum reserve maintained by the industry. In tonnage, this correspond to about 20,400 MT.

Trade

Export and import data on a calendar year basis are given in the trade matrices below, which revise those reported in GR 2004. Due to the delay in supplying trade information from the National Statistic Service (NSS), trade data cited in GR2004 were rough estimates based on various other sources.

Presently, export prices for 2002 canned fruit are at 13.00 euros/box for standard quality (24x1 kgr) and 14 euros/box for choice quality ex factory prices. Processors believe that this price is satisfactory, however sales have started slowly. In October or November the market is expected to become more active. It is widely accepted that this coming marketing season Greek product will face problems in supplying traditional markets due to a shortage of canned product while competitors will become more aggressive.

Policy

There are no changes on withdrawals, EU quota levels and EU support prices. For more information see Report GR Report 2004.

CANNED MIXTURES

Production

Canned Mixtures production will not be affected by the short peach crop production. On the contrary, production is expected to increase by almost 20% over last year due to lower production in Italy. Attached PS&D is accordingly adjusted.

APRICOTS

Production

Because processors need to operate their production lines at a reasonable capacity and because apricots are processed before peaches, processors have managed by taking in as many apricots as possible. They were aware for the upcoming 2002, that the peach crop to be processed was a very reduced crop. By contrast, the 2002 fresh apricot production, estimated at 56,000 MT, was not affected too much by extreme low temperatures during January 2002 as was initially feared. Fresh apricot production of 56,000 MT, is at the same level as last years' crop. Compared to the storm damage suffered by the peach crop, the apricot crop damage was much less. Nevertheless, apricot production has declined for the past few years, mostly due to poor weather.

Exchange Rates:

Jan- Aug. 2002 \$1.00=1.090 euros

PS&D Table, Canned Peaches

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Canned Peaches				(MT)(MT, Net Weight)	
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		06/2000		06/2001		06/2002
Deliv. To Processors	308000	308000	330000	330000	300000	230000
Beginning Stocks	102000	102000	121300	121300	96000	57000
Production	397000	397000	407000	407000	367000	276000
Imports	1300	1300	1000	1000	1000	1300
TOTAL SUPPLY	500300	500300	529300	529300	464000	334300
Exports	366000	366000	420000	458300	395000	300900
Domestic Consumption	13000	13000	13300	14000	14000	13000
Ending Stocks	121300	121300	96000	57000	55000	20400
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	500300	500300	529300	529300	464000	334300

Export Trade Matrix, Canned Peaches

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Greece		
Commodity	Canned Peaches		
Time period		Units:	MT
Exports for:	2000		2001
U.S.	18013	U.S.	
Others		Others	
France	17462	France	22446
Germany	81608	Germany	147133
U.K.	35411		
Italy	23397		
Belgium-Lux	9194		
Other EU	24270	Other EU	73358
>Sub Total EU	191342	>Sub Total EU	242937
Canada	36440	Poland	26757
Mexico	25345	Canada	24570
Poland	20924	Russian Federation	15884
Total for Others	274051	Total for Others	310148
Others not Listed	80893	Others not Listed	136705
Grand Total	372957	Grand Total	446853

Import Trade Matrix, Canned Peaches

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Greece		
Commodity	Canned Peaches		
Time period		Units:	MT
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.	16	U.S.	
Others		Others	
Germany	819	Germany	230
France	175	Italy	29
Other EU	115	Other EU	226
>Sub Total EU	1109	>Sub Total EU	485
Canada	12	South Africa	764
		Japan	184
		Egypt	74
Total for Others	1121	Total for Others	1507
Others not Listed	0	Others not Listed	91
Grand Total	1137	Grand Total	1598

PS&D Table, Canned Apricots

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Canned Apricots					(MT)(MT, Net Weight)
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		06/2000		06/2001		06/2002
Deliv. To Processors	17300	17300	11500	11500	8500	14500
Beginning Stocks	704	804	1697	1697	247	247
Production	20000	20000	14000	14000	10000	17000
Imports	193	193	350	350	400	400
TOTAL SUPPLY	20897	20997	16047	16047	10647	17647
Exports	18100	18100	15000	15000	9800	13500
Domestic Consumption	1100	1200	800	800	700	1500
Ending Stocks	1697	1697	247	247	147	2647
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	20897	20997	16047	16047	10647	17647

Export Trade Matrix, Canned Apricots

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Greece		
Commodity	Canned Apricots		
Time period		Units:	MT
Exports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
France	4588	Germany	5032
Germany	6806	France	5738
Italy	3684	Italy	2183
UK	915	UK	850
Other EU	1109	Other EU	1316
>Sub Total EU	17102	>Sub Total EU	15119
Russia	802	Russia	1373
Poland	426	Poland	520
Czechia	216	Czechia	352
Croatia	237	Croatia	80
Total for Others	18783	Total for Others	17444
Others not Listed	978	Others not Listed	1168
Grand Total	19761	Grand Total	18612

Import Trade Matrix, Canned Apricots

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Greece		
Commodity	Canned Apricots		
Time period		Units:	MT
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Austria	54	Germany	130
Germany	29	France	23
Other EU	55	Other EU	100
>Sub Total EU	138	>Sub Total EU	253
		Turkey	3278
Total for Others	138	Total for Others	3531
Others not Listed		Others not Listed	18
Grand Total	138	Grand Total	3549

PS&D Table, Canned Mixtures

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Canned Mixtures					(MT)(MT, Net Weight)
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		06/2000		06/2001		06/2002
Deliv. To Processors	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Stocks	1143	1143	3843	3843	4343	4343
Production	23000	23000	28000	28000	32000	33600
Imports	1200	1200	500	500	300	300
TOTAL SUPPLY	25343	25343	32343	32343	36643	38243
Exports	19000	19000	25000	25000	28000	33500
Domestic Consumption	2500	2500	3000	3000	3100	3100
Ending Stocks	3843	3843	4343	4343	5543	1643
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	25343	25343	32343	32343	36643	38243

Export Trade Matrix, Canned Mixtures

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Greece		
Commodity	Canned Mixtures		
Time period		Units:	MT
Exports for:	2000		2001
U.S.	2428	U.S.	3800
Others		Others	
UK	2629	UK	3165
Belgium-Lux.	1977	Belgium-Lux.	1000
Germany	1726	Germany	2092
Other EU	944	Other EU	5614
>Sub Total EU	7273	>Sub Total EU	11871
Japan	840	Japan	3196
Canada	976	Canada	1737
Mexico	30	Mexico	18
		Egypt	258
		Russia	194
Total for Others	9122	Total for Others	17274
Others not Listed	1954	Others not Listed	4565
Grand Total	13504	Grand Total	25639

Import Trade Matrix, Canned Mixtures

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Greece		
Commodity	Canned Mixtures		
Time period		Units:	MT
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Germany	699	Germany	924
France	416	France	370
Belgium-Lux	116	Belgium-Lux.	184
Other EU	74	Italy	159
>Sub Total EU	1305	Other Eu	30
Egypt	75	>Sub Total EU	1667
		Thailand	24
Total for Others	1380	Total for Others	1691
Others not Listed	28	Others not Listed	92
Grand Total	1408	Grand Total	1783